Important Coins of the Islamic World

To be sold by auction at:

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Day of Sale:

Thursday 10 April 2014
at 2.00 pm

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Nash House, St George Street, London W1S 2FQ

Monday 7 April	10.00 am to 4.30 pm
Tuesday 8 April	10.00 am to 4.30 pm
Wednesday 9 April	10.00 am to 4.30 pm

Or by previous appointment.

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Enquiries:

Stephen Lloyd, Tom Eden or María Queralt

Cover illustrations:

Lot 8 *(front);* lot 20 *(back);* lot 82 *(inside front);* lot 104 *(inside back)*

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Order of Sale

Thursday 10 April 2014

Starting at 2.00 pm

Arab-Sasanian and Arab Latin Coinage	lots 1-6
Post-Reform Umayyad Dinars *including an Umayyad Gold Dinar from the* Ma'din Amir al-Mu'minin *dated 91h*	lots 7-10
Post-Reform Umayyad Dirhams and Bronze Weight	lots 11-28
Abbasid Coins	lots 29-89
Spain, North Africa and Syria	lots 90-98, 148
Fatimid Coins	lots 99-147
Ottoman Coins	lots 149-151
Iran and the East	lots 152-160

The condition of most of the coins and medals in this catalogue is described by the use of conventional numismatic terms. For an explanation of these expressions, or for any further information, clients are invited to contact us directly.

IMPORTANT COINS OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD

Thursday 10 April 2014, starting at 2.00pm

1
ARAB-SASANIAN, YAZDIGERD II TYPE
Drachm, BN (uncertain location in Kirman province) YE20 = 31h

OBVERSE: Bust of Yazdigerd II to right with name in Pahlawi before; in margin, *jayyid* ('good')
REVERSE: Fire-altar with attendants; date to left, mint-signature to right
WEIGHT: 3.46g
REFERENCE: Album 2
CONDITION: *Some grey deposit, slightly wavy flan, good fine to very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

NOTE: These very rare Arab-Sasanian drachms with *jayyid* in the obverse margin have the distinction of being some of the very earliest Islamic coins struck. It seems that they were produced in small numbers before *bismillah* was adopted as the standard obverse marginal legend, clearly indicating that these new drachms were Islamic coins rather than Sasanian issues.

2
UMAYYAD, TEMP. AL-WALID I (86-96h)
Pale gold tremissis, undated (struck in North Africa *circa* 85-95h)

OBVERSE: In margin: abbreviated form of 'Non est Deus nisi unus Deus cui non socius alius'
In field: Cippus with T on steps
REVERSE: In margin and across field: abbreviated form of 'Non est Deus nisi unus cui non est alius similis'
WEIGHT: 1.13g
REFERENCES: Walker 168ff; Bernardi 25
CONDITION: *Very fine or better and rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-2,500

3
ARAB-LATIN COINAGE, TEMP. AL-WALID I (86-96h)
Gold Solidus, Spain, Indiction X / 93h

OBVERSE: In margin: 'Hic solidus feritus in Spania anno XCIII' (abbreviated and blundered)
In field: INDC X
REVERSE: Around eight-pointed star: 'In nomine Domini non Deus nisi Deus solus cui non socius' (abbreviated and blundered)
WEIGHT: 3.60g
REFERENCES: Bernardi 28; Balaguer 3 = Walker P.44; cf Sotheby's, 19 April 1994, lot 287, *same dies*
CONDITION: *Struck in pale gold, graffiti on obverse, very fine to good very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,500

4
ARAB-LATIN COINAGE, TEMP. AL-WALID I (86-96h)
Gold Solidus, Spain, Indiction XI / 94h

OBVERSE: In margin: HIC SLd FRT IN SPN ANN XCIIII ('Hic solidus feritus in Spania anno XCIIII')
In field: INDC XI
REVERSE: Around eight-pointed star: IN N dNI NO ds NS ds SLS NN S ('In nomine Domini non Deus nisi Deus solus [cui] non socius.')
WEIGHT: 3.76g
REFERENCES: Bernardi 30; cf Balaguer 21; Walker 181ff
CONDITION: *Very fine or better and with exceptionally clear legends on the obverse, rare*

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000

5
ARAB-LATIN COINAGE, TEMP. AL-WALID I (86-96h)
Gold Solidus, Spain, Indiction XII / 94h

OBVERSE: In margin: N CLO FRT IN SPN ANN XCIIII (for 'Hic solidus feritus in Spania anno XCIIII')
In field: INDC XII
REVERSE: Around eight-pointed star: IN N dNI NI ds NS ds SLS I N ('In nomine Domini non Deus nisi Deus solus cui non [socius]).'
WEIGHT: 4.23g
REFERENCES: Bernardi 31; Balaguer -; cf Walker P.45 (Indiction XII, 93h)
CONDITION: *Good very fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000

NOTE: This solidus, struck during Indiction XII, was one of the last gold coins issued in Muslim Spain before the introduction of the bilingual Arabic/Latin type in 98h. It was issued by Musa b. Nusayr, the governor of Ifriqiya, who campaigned in Spain from 93-95h and began minting Arab-Latin solidi there. Production of these coins ceased when Musa was recalled to Damascus, arriving there late in 95h. Musa then appointed his son 'Abd al- 'Aziz to govern Spain, although he seems to have struck no coins there before he was assassinated in 97h. His successor was a relative named Ayyub b. Habib, whose tenure lasted only a few months.

6
ARAB-LATIN COINAGE, TEMP. SULAYMAN (96-99h)
Gold Solidus/Dinar, al-Andalus 98h

OBVERSE: In margin: mint and date
In field: *Muhammad ra-* | *sul Allah*
REVERSE: Around central eight-pointed star: FERITOS SOLI IN SPAN AN
WEIGHT: 4.14g
REFERENCES: Bernardi 35Aa, *same dies as C.0003*; Balaguer 42 = Walker p.79, C.18, *same reverse die*
CONDITION: *Extremely fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £8,000-12,000

NOTE: This one-year bilingual type was probably introduced by al-Hurr b. ‘Abd al-Rahman, who was appointed to govern Spain after Ayyub b. Habib was removed from office (see note to previous lot). It represents the first instance of the Arabic script being used in Muslim Spain. As Bernardi points out, the Arabic legends are elegantly and correctly written while the Latin inscriptions are abbreviated and more coarsely executed. It is noteworthy that the Hijri year ‘98’ is clearly and completely rendered in Arabic, while the Roman numerals, which would denote the date in Latin characters, are in fact missing entirely from this particular die. It is difficult to escape the conclusion that the Arabic version was considered more important than the Latin by the issuing authorities.

7
UMAYYAD, TEMP. YAZID (101-105h) OR HISHAM (105-125h)
Dinar, no mint-name, 105h

WEIGHT: 4.25g
REFERENCE: Walker 224
CONDITION: *Faint edge marks, otherwise extremely fine and rare, a key date for the series*

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000

8
UMAYYAD, TEMP. AL-WALID I (86-96h)
Dinar, Ma'din Amir al-Mu'minin 91h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Ma'din Amir* | *al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE: Standard Umayyad type with date legend in margin
WEIGHT: 4.28g
REFERENCES: Bernardi 47 = SICA 10, 485-486 *(same obverse dies);* Miles, G.C., 'A unique Umayyad dinar of 91 H. / A.D. 709-10,' *Revue Numismatique* 14 (1972), pp. 264-268, *same obverse die*
CONDITION: *Light graffiti but generally good very fine, extremely rare and of high historical importance*

ESTIMATE: £300,000-400,000

NOTE: Umayyad gold dinars from the 'Mine of the Commander of the Faithful' remain among the most coveted, intriguing and historically significant of all Islamic gold coins. Examples dated 89h, 92h and 105h have been sold in these rooms previously (the unique coin of 89h on 23 April 2012 and the other two dates on 4 April 2011), but this is believed to be the first specimen of 91h to be offered at public auction.

Remarkably, the same obverse die with the additional *Ma'din Amir al-Mu'minin* legend was used to strike coins in 89h, 91h and 92h. Its calligraphy, fabric and general style all recall standard Umayyad dinars struck in Damascus, and in fact the reverse die used for the present coin can be matched with regular dinars of the same year (cf. CNG Electronic Auction 273, 8 February 2012, lot 502). Other combinations between this special obverse die and standard reverse dies have also been noted for coins struck in the following year, 92h.

The significance of the *Ma'din* inscription is still debated but, as has previously been argued, there is much to be said for the simplest explanation: that it refers to a mine belonging to the caliph. That being said, it is unlikely to be a mint-name, which one would expect to find in the margin with the date. To judge by the Umayyad mint-names found on the silver coinage, mints were normally established in cities, or perhaps travelled with the army, but are not otherwise known to have been set up at the mine itself. It seems more plausible that this inscription relates to the source of the gold, indicating that it had been extracted from a mine owned by the caliph himself. This in turn raises several interesting questions: Did gold from the caliph's personal mines then have a different status from gold obtained from other sources? Was this gold somehow treated differently from gold brought to the mint through tax revenues or by private individuals?

It has been plausibly suggested that 'Mine of the Commander of the Faithful' dinars may have been struck at a travelling mint which accompanied the caliph. If this was staffed by workers from the Damascus mint using their usual tools and equipment, one would logically expect the coins they produced to look identical, whether struck in the capital or on the road. Since the reverse die used for this coin was also used to strike standard dinars, it must have been physically in Damascus for at least part of its working life, and because it carries the date it can only have been used during the year 91h. If this die did leave Damascus with a travelling mint, it cannot have been in use at a location away from the capital for more than a few months at most. On the other hand the obverse die with the *Ma'din Amir al-Mu'minin* legend was shared between coins struck over a period of at least four years. Clearly this special die was not considered redundant at the year's end but was kept for future use. For a single die to survive for four years also suggests that these 'Mine of the Commander of the Faithful' dinars must have been produced in very small numbers, which is consistent with their great rarity today.

Where might the caliph's mines have been located? The legend *Ma'din Amir al-Mu'minin bi'l-Hijaz* found on dinars of 105h, together with the fact that the Umayyad caliph 'Umar is recorded as having purchased a plot of land containing a gold mine in the Hejaz area (Miles, *op. cit.,* p. 266), has led scholars to propose that the gold used to strike these earlier dinars also came from the Hejaz. It has also been suggested that the caliph might have visited mines in this area while travelling to the Holy Places. In his catalogue of the Turath Collection, Ilisch hypothesized that 'a travelling "court mint", dependent on the main mint and Damascus and working for the caliphal private treasury...was in operation on several occasions: in connection with the construction work for the great mosque in Medina (built...in 88-91 A.H.) [and] during the visit of the caliph al-Walid to Medina in 91/92 A.H., when he led the Hajj.'

For further discussion of this coinage and a specialist bibliography, please see Morton and Eden auction 48, 4 April 2011 where two other 'Mine of the Commander of the Faithful' dinars were sold, dated 92h (sold for £648,000) and 105h (sold for £3,720,000).

TWO IMPORTANT UMAYYAD DINARS WITH MINT-NAMES

'Abd al-Malik b. Marwan's coinage reforms were completed between 77-79h, and the legends on the new gold dinars and silver dirhams were similar in most respects. Both denominations carried the same verses from the Holy Qur'an, somewhat abbreviated on the dinars because the flans themselves were smaller. The silver dirhams bore the mint and date in the obverse margin, but on the gold dinars this inscription was placed in the reverse margin and contained the date only. The reasons for this difference were largely historical. Almost all the early dirham mints were located in the Eastern half of the new empire, and continued the Sasanian practice of naming mint and date on the coins they struck. But the new dinars were struck only in Damascus and it seems to have been felt unnecessary to repeat this fact on every single gold coin struck there.

This situation changed when the Muslims took control of North Africa and Spain. At first, coins were struck with Latin inscriptions and which were clearly based on Byzantine prototypes (see lots 2-5), followed by a bilingual issue struck in Spain in 98h (see lot 6). But as these new territories became increasingly integrated within the Islamic world, the coinage was reformed to conform with the post-Reform dirhams and dinars circulating elsewhere. The first new dinars were struck in Ifriqiya in 100h and in al-Andalus in 102h, and differ from regular Damascus dinars not only by the addition of the mint-name in the reverse margin, but also by the shorter inscriptions in the fields on both sides, taken from Umayyad half- and third-dinars. The reasons for this are not clear, and after a few years these legends were modified again to conform those on normal dinars of Damascus.

The year 102h appears to be the least rare date for dinars from both mints; examples from 104h and later are extremely rare.

9
UMAYYAD, TEMP. HISHAM (105-125h)
Dinar, Ifriqiya 107h

OBVERSE:	In field: *la ilaha i-* | *lla Allah* | *wahdahu* In margin: *Muhammad rasul Allah...*
REVERSE:	In field: *bismillah* | *al-Rahman* | *al-Rahim*
WEIGHT:	4.27g
REFERENCES:	Bernardi 44Ca (citing two examples); cf Spink Zurich auction 22, 17 March 1987, lot 22, *same dies*
CONDITION:	*Traces of die rust, about extremely fine and extremely rare*
ESTIMATE:	£15,000-20,000

10
UMAYYAD, TEMP. HISHAM (106-125h)
Dinar, al-Andalus 106h

OBVERSE:	In field: *la ilaha i-* | *lla Allah* | *wahdahu* In margin: *Muhammad rasul Allah...*
REVERSE:	In field: *bismillah* | *al-Rahman* | *al-Rahim*
WEIGHT:	4.25g
REFERENCES:	Museo Nacional Arqueológico Nacional, Madrid, item 104279 =Vives 19 = Walker p.102, Mad.4 = Bernardi 44Aa (citing this as the sole example known)
CONDITION:	*Weakly struck and some scuffs on the obverse, very fine and excessively rare*
ESTIMATE:	£20,000-30,000

11
UMAYYAD, TEMP. ʻABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)
Dirham, Abarqubadh 80h

WEIGHT: 2.85g
REFERENCES: Klat 16; SCC 237
CONDITION: *Very fine and toned, light double-striking on obverse, extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

NOTE: Two examples recorded by Klat.

12
UMAYYAD, TEMP. ʻABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)
Dirham, Arminiya 81h

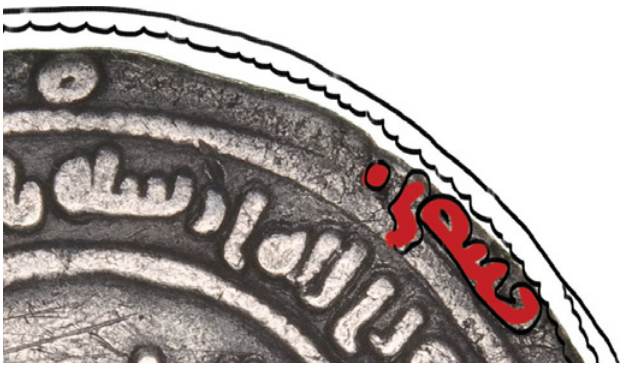
OBVERSE: In border: annulets o o o o o
In margin: mint-name written *Armiya (sic,* lacking one 'tooth' before the *ta marbuta)*
REVERSE: In border: annulets o o o o, with name of governor (?) between those at twelve and three o'clock
WEIGHT: 2.62g
REFERENCES: Klat 46.a, *same reverse die;* SCC –
CONDITION: *Some double-striking on obverse, toned and with old marks in fields on both sides (especially the obverse), otherwise almost very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

NOTE: One example of this type recorded by Klat.

Umayyad dirhams are notable for the almost complete uniformity of their legends, which remain standard throughout the coinage with the exception of the mint and date. It is very rare for an Umayyad dirham to bear even an additional letter in the reverse field, let alone an additional word in the outer border as found on this specimen. Apart from this type, the only comparable example is the unique coin of Adharbayjan 78h (Klat 23.a) which repeats the mint-name in the border on the obverse.

Klat did not suggest a reading of the mysterious word in the reverse border, although this was clearer on his example (see the enlargements below, with the right-hand illustration showing the name highlighted in red and the full flan from the Klat specimen added in outline). It is clearly not a repetition of the mint-name as on the Adharbayjan coin, and is presumably a proper name of some kind. If so this represents the only known instance of an individual being named on the post-Reform Umayyad coinage.



13
UMAYYAD, TEMP. YAZID II (101-105h)
Dirham, Istakhr 102h

OBVERSE: In field: mint-mark *tam-mim* below
WEIGHT: 2.86g
REFERENCES: Klat 82.b; SCC -
CONDITION: *Light deposit, otherwise good very fine and toned*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

NOTE: Three examples of this very rare variety recorded by Klat. This appears to be the only instance where a mint-mark is placed on an Umayyad post-Reform dirham.

‡14
UMAYYAD/ABBASID, GOVERNOR ‘ASIM B. JAMIL (140h) OR ‘ABD AL-MALIK B. ABI AL-JA‘DI (140-141h)
Dirham, Ifriqiya 140h

OBVERSE: In border: three pairs of concentric annulets
REVERSE: In margin: final *–kun* of *mushrikun* superscript (for reasons of space)
In border: annulets unclear (probably oo oo oo oo)
WEIGHT: 2.80g
REFERENCES: Lowick 268 *var.* (apparently with three plain annulets on obverse); SCC -; Diler –
CONDITION: *Grey chloride deposits, fine to good fine and excessively rare*

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000

NOTE: The Governor of Africa at the time of the overthrow of the Umayyads was ‘Abd al-Rahman b. Habib, who had been appointed in 127h. In 132h the new Abbasid caliph, al-Saffah, reconfirmed ‘Abd al-Rahman’s governorship - possibly because this was preferable to leading an army to Africa to remove him forcibly. ‘Abd al-Rahman remained in office until his death in 138h and sporadically issued dirhams of Umayyad type during this period (examples from 133-136 are known). This practice was continued by the four short-lived governors who served between 138h and 144h, when the first Abbasid-style dirhams were struck in Ifriqiya (Lowick 271ff).

‡15
UMAYYAD/ABBASID, GOVERNOR ‘ABD AL-MALIK B. ABI AL-JA‘DI (140-141h) OR ABU’L-KHATTAB AL-SAMAH (141-143h)
Dirham, Ifriqiya 141h

OBVERSE: In border: annulets O O O O
REVERSE: In border: annulets unclear (probably oo oo oo oo)
WEIGHT: 2.63g
REFERENCES: Lowick -; SCC -; cf Emirates Coin Auction 2, 28-29 March 2000, lot 174
CONDITION: *Light crease, good fine and excessively rare*

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000

‡16
UMAYYAD, TEMP. HISHAM (105-125h)
Dirham, al-Andalus 128h

OBVERSE:	In border: annulets apparently oo oo oo oo In field: central pellet between *wa – hdahu* in second line
REVERSE:	In border: annulets unclear (probably oo oo oo oo)
WEIGHT:	2.56g
CONDITION:	*Clipped, graffiti in reverse field, good fine and of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished*
ESTIMATE:	£10,000-15,000
NOTE:	An unrecorded date for the mint of al-Andalus. Klat lists no dirhams from the mint between 125h and 129h, noting that reported examples from 126h and 127h are considered dubious (Klat p.291). Hitherto, no dirham at all seems to have been reported for the year 128h.

‡17
UMAYYAD, TEMP. AL-WALID I (86-96h)
Dirham, Bizamqubadh 91h

WEIGHT:	2.83g
REFERENCES:	Klat 163; SCC 346, *same dies*
CONDITION:	*Very fine or better and rare*
ESTIMATE:	£1,000-1,500

‡18
UMAYYAD, TEMP. AL-WALID I (86-96h)
Dirham, Dabil 86h

WEIGHT:	2.87g
REFERENCES:	Klat 287; SCC 303
CONDITION:	*Good very fine, some double-striking and flan faults on reverse*
ESTIMATE:	£1,000-1,500

19
UMAYYAD, TEMP. ʻABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)
Dirham, Darabjird 80h

WEIGHT: 2.83g
REFERENCES: Klat 289; SCC 240
CONDITION: *Small flan laminations on reverse, almost extremely fine with grey toning, rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

NOTE: Four examples recorded by Klat.

‡20
UMAYYAD, TEMP. ʻABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)
Dirham, Tukharistan ‘8’ (80h or 78h)

OBVERSE: In border: within beaded circle, four small pellets at cardinal points
In margin: within triple beaded circle, starting at 9 o’clock: *bismillah duriba hadha al-dirham bi-Tukharistan fi sanat thaman* (sic)
REVERSE: In border: within beaded circle, four small pellets at cardinal points
In margin: within single beaded circle, starting at 6 o’clock: *Muhammad rasul Allah…*
In field: within single beaded circle, Qurʻan cxii *(part),* letter *wa* at beginning of third line
WEIGHT: 2.74g
REFERENCE: Mosanef, F. and M.T. Saffar, ‘An Umayyad dirham of Tokharistan,’ *JONS* 217 (Autumn 2013), p. 8, *this piece*
CONDITION: *Very fine or better, historically important and of the highest rarity*

ESTIMATE: £50,000-70,000

NOTE: Tukharistan was the name of a large district to the east of the great city of Balkh, extending along the southern bank of the Oxus river as far as the mountains of Badakhshan, and stretching south as far as the mountain ranges north of Banjhir and Bamiyan. This Umayyad dirham is the only known coin *from any dynasty* with this mint-name.

According to Mosanef and Saffar, at the time of the Muslim conquests Tukharistan was ruled by a Sasanian governor. During the caliphate of ‘Uthman (23-35h) the famous governor of Khurasan, ‘Abdallah b. ‘Amir, sent forces eastwards into Tukharistan under the command of Ahnaf b. Qays. Ahnaf soon captured Marw, and after defeating a large Sasanian army moved on to capture several towns before finally entering Balkh, where the two sides signed a peace treaty. Some years later Firuz, son of the last Sasanian king Yazdigerd III, invaded Tukharistan in an ill-fated attempt to restore Sasanian rule. He was defeated in 47h and fled to China, after which Tukharistan seems to have remained relatively peaceful for the next thirty years.

The next phase of eastward expansion began in 78h when al-Hajjaj b. Yusuf appointed Muhallab b. Abi Sufra to the governorship of Khurasan. Muhallab spent two years in Tukharistan while his son campaigned further east as far as Bukhara. Another decade of eastern conquests under Qutayba b. Muslim Bahili was to follow.

Although Mosanef and Saffar read the date on this coin as *thamanin*, ‘eighty’, it is in fact clearly *thaman*, ‘eight’. This may be intended for *thamanin* as they suggest, but another possibility might be that the decade has been omitted for reasons of space and *thaman wa sabaʻin,* ‘seventy-eight’, was meant. This would coincide with the appointment of Muhallab b. Abi Sufra and so would fit equally well, if not better, with Mosanef and Saffar’s historical account. The four pellets in the margins are unparalleled on other Umayyad dirhams and may also support the earlier date, since five annulets had become established as the standard pattern on coins of 79h and later.

‡21
UMAYYAD, TEMP. ‘ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)
Dirham, al-Furat 79h

WEIGHT: 2.87g
REFERENCES: Klat 501, *same obverse die;* SCC –
CONDITION: *Good very fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000

NOTE: Four examples recorded by Klat.

22
UMAYYAD, TEMP. ‘ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)
Dirham, Fasa 79h

WEIGHT: 2.83g
REFERENCES: Klat 510; SCC –
CONDITION: *Obverse almost extremely fine, reverse very fine with some roughness, rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

23
UMAYYAD, TEMP. HISHAM (105-125h)
Dirham, al-Mubaraka 107h

OBVERSE: Chain border; two concentric circles instead of three
REVERSE: Border of pellets (instead of usual annulets)
WEIGHT: 2.61g
REFERENCES: Klat 570; SCC –
CONDITION: *Good fine/fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £3,000-5,000

NOTE: Four examples (including one countermarked) recorded by Klat. The chain and pellet borders on this piece are unique to the mint of al-Mubaraka and replace the annulets found on virtually all other Umayyad post-Reform dirhams. They are only found on coins dated 107h and 108h.

‡24
UMAYYAD, TEMP. ‘ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)
Dirham, Maysan 83h

WEIGHT: 2.61g
REFERENCES: Klat 632, *same obverse die;* SCC 293
CONDITION: *Porous surfaces, very fine or better and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

25
UMAYYAD, TEMP. ‘ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)
Dirham, Nahr Tira 79h

WEIGHT: 2.77g
REFERENCES: Klat 637; SCC 231
CONDITION: *Some deposit and blistering to surfaces, very fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

NOTE: Four examples recorded by Klat.

‡26
UMAYYAD, TEMP. ‘ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)
Dirham, Nahr Tira 80h

WEIGHT: 2.89g
REFERENCES: Klat 638; SCC 252
CONDITION: *Good very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

27
UMAYYAD, TEMP. ‘ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)
Square uniface bronze weight, naming al-Hajjaj b. Yusuf (40-95h)

OBVERSE: Five line inscription: *bismillah amr al-A- | mir al-Hajjaj bin Yu- | suf bi’l-wa- | fa hadha miza- | n thalatha (?)*
REVERSE: Plain; the edges canted (as seen on later Western coin weights, possibly to make it easier to remove the weight from a fitted wooden box)
DIMENSIONS: 17.1 x 15.7 x 7mm
WEIGHT: 12.20g
REFERENCES: cf. Walker, J., “Some recent Oriental coin acquisitions of the British Museum,” *Numsimatic Chronicle,* Fifth Series, vol. XV (1935), pp.241-253, no.3; cf Baldwin’s Islamic Coin Auction 11, 13 July 2006, lot 14
CONDITION: *About very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000

NOTE: The legends on the obverse of the example published by Walker are identical to the present specimen except that the denomination is given as *sitt* for six *mithqals*. The final word here is not certain but appears to be *thalatha,* spelled with a final *ta marbuta,* which would also ba appropriate for the weight of the piece.

Walker suggested that these extremely rare metal coin weights were among the earliest such objects produced by the Umayyads, dating them to the period of ‘Abd al-Malik’s coinage reforms, *circa* 75h. He also noted that the earliest dated glass weight then known to him was in fact dated 96h, *after* the death of al-Hajjaj b. Yusuf who is mentioned here as the issuing authority. Walker concluded: *“The metal coin weights that were first employed by the Muslims must be extremely rare. I know of no other published example.”*

28
REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD, TEMP. MUHARIB B. MUSA (fl. 128-129h)
Dirham, Darabjird 129h

OBVERSE: Outer margin: legend divided by seven large annulets
Inner margin: Qur’an xxxxii, 23
WEIGHT: 2.36g
REFERENCES: Klat 302; Wurtzel 14; SCC 776, *same dies*
CONDITION: *Some corrosion and edge damage, good fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

NOTE: Two examples recorded by Klat.

29
ABBASID, TEMP. AL-RASHID (170-193h)
Dinar, no mint-name, 170h

REVERSE: In field: *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *Khalid*
WEIGHT: 4.14g
REFERENCE: cf Bernardi 70 (known only for 187h)
CONDITION: *Fine to good fine and apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

NOTE: The identity of the *Khalid* mentioned here is uncertain. The name is also found on dinars of al-Rashid dated 187h where, according to Bernardi, it refers to Khalid al-Barmaki (86-165h). Bernardi does not suggest why Khalid al-Barmaki should have been posthumously honoured in such a way, although the issue in 187h would in fact have coincided with the centenary of Khalid's birth. If Bernardi is correct, however, it might have represented a mark of respect from Khalid's grandson, Ja 'far, who was then Harun al-Rashid's vizier. It may then be significant that Ja'far's father Yahya, who preceded him in this post, was appointed in 170h - the year the present coin was struck.

30
ABBASID, TEMP. AL-MA'MUN (194-218h)
Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 198h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Madinat al-Salam*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *Dhu'l –Riyasatayn*
WEIGHT: 4.15g
REFERENCES: Lowick 176; Bernardi 99Jh
CONDITION: *Obverse double-struck, some scratches, good fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

NOTE: This is the first gold coin to bear the name of Madinat al-Salam (Baghdad), placed in the obverse field rather than in the margin as would later become standard for Abbasid dinars. Dhu'l-Riyasatayn, 'Holder of the Two Ministries,' was the title of al-Ma'mun's Persian minister al-Fadl b. Sahl.

31
ABBASID, TEMP. AL-MA'MUN (194-218h)
Dinar, no mint-name, 206h

OBVERSE: Reform type with double margins
In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah*
WEIGHT: 4.06g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 116 (citing three examples)
CONDITION: *Old scratches in fields, about very fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

NOTE: This is the earliest date for al-Ma'mun's reformed gold coinage, known only without mint-name.

32
ABBASID, TEMP. AL-MA'MUN (194-218h)
Dinar, Dimashq 215h

OBVERSE:	Reform type with double margins In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu*
REVERSE:	In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah*
WEIGHT:	3.82g
REFERENCE:	legends as Bernardi 116 (mint not listed for this type)
CONDITION:	*Lightly clipped, otherwise good fine and of the highest rarity*
ESTIMATE:	£4,000-6,000
NOTE:	This unpublished coin is the earliest known dinar to bear the mint-name *Dimashq* (Damascus).

33
ABBASID, AL-MU'TASIM (218-227h)
Dinar, Surra man Ra'a 226h

WEIGHT:	4.15g
REFERENCE:	Bernardi 151Jc (citing a single example in the American Numismatic Society)
CONDITION:	*Flan very slightly buckled, about very fine and extremely rare, the first recorded date for dinars from Surra man Ra'a*
ESTIMATE:	£2,000-3,000

34
ABBASID, AL-MUTAWAKKIL (232-247h)
Donative dinar with broad margins, Surra man Ra'a 239h

OBVERSE:	In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Abu 'Abdallah*
WEIGHT:	3.86g
REFERENCE:	cf Bernardi 157Jc (date not listed)
CONDITION:	*Mount removed from margin, otherwise very fine and extremely rare*
ESTIMATE:	£4,000-6,000
NOTE:	Struck from specially prepared dies, with broad margins around the inscriptions, al-Mutawakkil's donative dinars of Surra man Ra'a are among the earliest examples of Abbasid presentation coins.

35
ABBASID, AL-MU'TAZZ (251-255h)
Dinar, Arminiya 252h

REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *al-Mu'tazz billah* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
WEIGHT: 3.25g
REFERENCE: cf Bernardi 162 for legends
CONDITION: *Evenly clipped, scrapes on obverse, good fine and of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £6,000-8,000

NOTE: Bernardi lists no dinars of Arminiya for al-Mu'tazz, although silver dirhams are known for each year of his reign. This appears to be the only gold issue from the mint struck between 247h and 269h so far recorded.

36
ABBASID, AL-MUHTADI (255-256h)
Dinar, Wasit 255h

REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *al-Muhtadi billah*
WEIGHT: 4.16g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 165Jm (citing two examples, including this specimen)
CONDITION: *Flan a little buckled, otherwise very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

PROVENANCE: Ex Sotheby's, 21 November 1985, lot 284

37
ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)
Dinar, al-Ahwaz 262h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *al-Muwaffaq billah*
WEIGHT: 3.93g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 177Nd (citing a single example)
CONDITION: *Almost very fine and an exceedingly rare date*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

NOTE: The mint-name appears to have been re-engraved on the die. Enough of the undertype remains to show that it included a long 'box' letter, although the original mint-name is difficult to decipher with certainty.

38
ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)
Dinar, al-Rahba 266h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *al-Muwaffaq billah*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah*
WEIGHT: 3.72g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 177Hm (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Pin marks in fields, otherwise good very fine and of the highest rarity*

ESTIMATE: £6,000-8,000

NOTE: This unpublished coin is the earliest known dinar from the very rare mint of al-Rahba by three years.

39
ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)
Dinar, al-Rafiqa 259h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Ja'far*
WEIGHT: 4.70g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 173Hn (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Some marginal weakness, very fine or better and of the highest rarity*

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000

NOTE: This previously unrecorded dinar is the earliest knwon gold coin from al-Rafiqa.

‡40
ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)
Dinar, Surra man ra'a 266h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *al-Mufawwad 'ala-'llah* | letter *'ayn*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah*
WEIGHT: 4.27g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 175Jc (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Faint marks on edge, good very fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

41
ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)
Dinar, Fars 273h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-nasir li-din Allah*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah | Ahmad b. al-Muwaffaq billah*
WEIGHT: 4.00g
REFERENCES: Bernardi – (this arrangement of legends unrecorded, but see SICA 4, 726 for a dirham of this type); cf Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 19, April 2012, lot 59, *same dies*
CONDITION: *Extremely fine and of the highest rarity*

ESTIMATE: £5,000-7,000

42
ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)
Dinar, Fars 274h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah | Ahmad b. al-Muwaffaq billah*
WEIGHT: 4.16g
REFERENCE: Bernardi type 184 (but unrecorded for this mint)
CONDITION: *Test mark on edge, good very fine and of the highest rarity*

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000

NOTE: These two extremely rare coins record a brief period when the Abbasids regained control of the province of Fars. This had been held by the Saffarids under 'Amr b. al-Layth for much of al-Mu'tamid's reign, when revolts elsewhere including the Zanj rebellion in southern Iraq (see lot 45) and the emergence of the Tulunids in Egypt had prevented the caliph from taking robust action against them. In 271h, however, with the Zanj suppressed and a new and more conciliatory Tulunid amir in place, al-Mu'tamid was finally in a position to turn his attention to the Saffarids. 'Amr b. al-Layth was publicly cursed in the mosques and deprived of all the governorships which the caliph had reluctantly been obliged to grant him, while a powerful army under Sa'id b. Makhlad left Wasit for Fars. Sa'id's forces then joined those of the Dulafid Ahmad b. 'Abd al-'Aziz whowas now appointed Governor of Fars and Kirman in 'Amr's stead.

Sa'id b. Makhlad won a victory against 'Amr's governor in Fars during 272h, only to be recalled to Wasit later that year. The Saffarids seem to have suffered a further defeat in 273h, this time at the hands ofthe future caliph al-Mu'tadid, although the Abbasids were again unable to build on their success; al-Mu'tadid was also recalled to Iraq, while 'Amr b. al-Layth retreated to Kirman. In 274h, the caliph's brother al-Muwaffaq entered Kirman hoping to engage 'Amr once more, but failed to make contact and was obliged to withdraw, initially to Fars and then back to Iraq, leaving Fars in the hands of the Saffarids. Negotiations between the two sides ended in 275h with 'Amr reinstated as Governor of Fars, Kirman, Sistan and Khurasan, for which he undertook to deliver ten million dirhams per annum in tax revenue, plus a further 500,000 dirhams as a personal gift for al-Muwaffaq.

43
ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)
Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 266h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *al-Muwaffaq billah*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah*
WEIGHT: 4.14g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 177Jh (date not listed)

CONDITION: *Pinmarks in obverse field, otherwise good very fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

44
ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)
Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 270h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *al-nasir li-din Allah* | *al-Muwaffaq billah*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah* | *Dhu'l-Wizaratayn*
WEIGHT: 4.30g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 179Jh (citing two examples)
CONDITION: *Minor weakness, about very fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

45
ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)
Dinar, Madinat al-Muwaffaqiya 269h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *al-Muwaffaq billah*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah* | letter *sad*
WEIGHT: 4.60g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 177Ep (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000

NOTE: Madinat al-Muwaffaqiya was a military camp built by and named after al-Muwaffaq, brother of the caliph al-Mu'tamid, as a base for his operations against the Zanj rebellion, a slave revolt which embroiled Southern Iraq for fifteen years from 255h-270h. The Zanj took advantage of the caliph's preoccupation with events elsewhere, notably the threat from the Saffarids under Ya'qub b. al-Layth, to sack Basra and to harass the lands further north, even threatening Wasit. After the death of Ya'qub, al-Muwaffaq was finally able to bring the main caliphal army to bear against the Zanj who were finally defeated, and their capital destroyed, in 270h.

Describing Madinat al-Muwaffaqiya, the historian al-Tabari reports that al-Muwaffaq '*...built a Friday mosque and ordered the people to worship there...then he established mints that issued dinars and dirhams.*' (quoted in Kennedy, H., *The Armies of the Caliphs: Military and Society in the Early Islamic State,* London, 2013).

46
ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h)
Donative quarter-dinar, 282h

OBVERSE:	In margin: *la ilaha illa Allah Muhammad rasul Allah* In field: *lillah | al-Mu'tadid | billah*
REVERSE:	In margin: *bismillah duriba sanat ithnayn wa thamanin wa mi'atayn* In field: *Amir | al-Mu'- | minin*
WEIGHT:	1.26g
REFERENCES:	Ilisch D III 11 = Bernardi 210
CONDITION:	*Very minor edge marks, good very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000

47
ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h)
Dinar, Harran 288h

WEIGHT:	4.03g
REFERENCE:	Bernardi 211Hj
CONDITION:	*Light scratches, good very fine and attractively toned, rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

48
ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h)
Dinar, Halab 288h

WEIGHT:	4.29g
REFERENCE:	Bernardi 211Gb
CONDITION:	*Areas of weakness on both sides but very fine or better, very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

49
ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h)
Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 283h

WEIGHT: 4.28g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 211Jh (one example cited)
CONDITION: *Good fine and an extremely rare date*

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

50
ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h)
Dinar, Nisibin 284h

WEIGHT: 4.05g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 211Hg
CONDITION: *Extremely fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £3,000-4,000

51
ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h)
Dinar, Dimashq 295h

WEIGHT: 4.67g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 226Ge (one example cited)
CONDITION: *Good very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

52
ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h)
Dinar, al-Rahba 294h

WEIGHT: 3.83g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 226Hm
CONDITION: *Almost extremely fine, double-striking on obverse and small test-mark on edge, extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £5,000-7,000

NOTE: Bernardi records dinars of this mint dated 293h and 295h but this appears to be the first published example struck in 294h.

53
ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h)
Dinar, Mah al-Kufa 292h

WEIGHT: 3.41g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 226Mr (citing a single example)
CONDITION: *Good fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

54
ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h)
Dinar, al-Masisa 295h

WEIGHT: 3.16g
REFERENCE: cf Bernardi 226Fd (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Flan lamination on reverse, centres a little weak, almost very fine and extremely rare, apparently an unpublished date*

ESTIMATE: £5,000-7,000

55
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Donative quarter-dinar, without mint or date

OBVERSE: In margin: *la ilaha illa Allah wahdahu la sharik lahu*
In field: *lillah | al-Muqtadir | billah*
REVERSE: In margin: *Muhammad rasul Allah arsulahu bi'l-huda wa din al-haqq*
In field: *Amir | al-Mu'- | minin*
WEIGHT: 1.17g
CONDITION: *Struck on a slightly wavy flan, good very fine and apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000

56
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Ardabil 318h

OBVERSE: In field: annulet | *la ilaha illa Allah* | *wahdahu la sharik lahu* | *Abu'l-'Abbas bin* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
WEIGHT: 3.54g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Ka
CONDITION: *Very fine to good very fine for issue, rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

57
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Isbahan 318h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Abu'l-'Abbas bin* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
WEIGHT: 3.22g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Mb (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Some marginal weakness, generally very fine and of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £6,000-8,000

58
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Antakiya 303h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | Abu'l-'Abbas bin | Amir al-Mu'minin*
WEIGHT: 4.06g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Ga (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Obverse flan lamination and scrape in reverse field, both centres weak, otherwise good fine with clearly legible mint and date, of the highest rarity and apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £7,000-10,000

59
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Barda'a 315h

OBVERSE: In field: legend in four lines
WEIGHT: 4.04g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Kf
CONDITION: *Margins weak, good fine for issue and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

60
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Hims 309h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | Abu'l-'Abbas bin | Amir al-Mu'minin*
WEIGHT: 2.77g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Gd (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Parallel striations on flan, about extremely fine and of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £6,000-8,000

61
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, al-Rafiqa 298h

WEIGHT: 3.24g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Hn (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Very light crease and small scrape at 12 o'clock on obverse, otherwise good very fine, apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,500

62
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Filastin 296h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu*
WEIGHT: 3.89g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 237Gn (three examples cited)
CONDITION: *Some weak areas, fine to good fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

63
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Filastin 298h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | Abu'l-'Abbas bin | Amir al-Mu'minin*
WEIGHT: 3.47g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Gn
CONDITION: *Scratch in reverse field but good very fine or better and an exceptional striking for the issue, very rare thus*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

64
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR
Dinar, Filastin 304h

WEIGHT: 4.04g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Gn (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Flan buckled and split, otherwise very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

65
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Filastin 307h

WEIGHT: 4.44g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Gn
CONDITION: *Some weak areas and double-striking on obverse, about very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

66
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Filastin 311h

WEIGHT: 4.14g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Gn (two examples listed)
CONDITION: *Wavy flan and with some uneven striking, good fine to almost very fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

67
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Filastin 319h

WEIGHT: 3.57g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Gn
CONDITION: *A little weak in margins, good very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

68
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Tabariya 299h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | Abu'l-'Abbas bin | Amir al-Mu'minin*
WEIGHT: 4.19g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Gi (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Small crimp at edge, otherwise good very fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £8,000-12,000

69
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, al-Masisa 296h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu*
WEIGHT: 3.51g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 237Fd (one example listed)
CONDITION: *Good fine to almost very fine, extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000

70
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, al-Masisa 307h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | Abu'l-'Abbas bin | Amir al-Mu'minin*
WEIGHT: 4.01g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Fd (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Flan very slightly wavy, otherwise almost extremely fine and of the highest rarity*

ESTIMATE: £7,000-10,000

NOTE: This unpublished coin represents the latest known date for dinars from the mint of al-Masisa.

71
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Hamadhan 312h

WEIGHT: 3.67g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Mu (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Good very fine, some double-striking on obverse and slight deposit on reverse, very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

72
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)
Dinar, Hamadhan 318h

WEIGHT: 3.69g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 242Mu (date not listed)
CONDITION: *Marginal weakness on both sides, otherwise extremely fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

73
ABBASID, AL-RADI (322-329h)
Dinar, Dimashq 327h

REVERSE: In field: *al-Radi billah*
WEIGHT: 3.01g
CONDITION: *Fair to fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

NOTE: This appears to be the only known example of a Damascus dinar struck between 317h, which is the latest recorded date for al-Muqtadir, and the first Ikhshidid issues of 332h (Bernardi 342Ge, citing a single specimen in the Qatar Museum).

74
ABBASID, AL-RADI (322-329h)
Dinar, Filastin 323h

WEIGHT: 3.93g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 285Gn
CONDITION: *Some marks in fields, very fine and evenly struck, rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

75
ABBASID, AL-RADI (322-329h)
Dinar, al-Kur 325h

OBVERSE: In field: ornate, braided *lam-alifs* and ornament below
REVERSE: In field: *Muhammad* with fleurons on first and last letters and cable pattern on elongated final *d*
WEIGHT: 3.40h
REFERENCE: Bernardi 285Ko (this piece cited)
CONDITION: *Very fine and of the highest rarity, one of only three dinars known from this excessively rare mint*

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000

PROVENANCE: Ex Morton and Eden auction 14, 25-26 May 2005, lot 577, where the location of this mint is discussed.

76
ABBASID, AL-MUTTAQI (329-333h)
Dinar, Filastin 329h

OBVERSE:	In field: letter *ha* | *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Abu'l-Hasan Bajkam* | *mawla Amir al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE:	In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *al-Muttaqi lillah*
WEIGHT:	4.05g
REFERENCES:	Bacharach -; Bernardi type 309 (not recorded for this mint)
CONDITION:	*Double-struck on obverse, almost very fine and apparently unpublished*
ESTIMATE:	£4,000-6,000
NOTE:	Apparently an unrecorded type for the mint of Filastin.

77
ABBASID, AL-MUTTAQI (329-333h)
Dinar, al-Mawsil 329h

OBVERSE:	In field: letter *ha* | *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Abu'l-Hasan Bajkam* | *mawla Amir al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE:	In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *al-Muttaqi lillah* | pellet
WEIGHT:	4.00g
REFERENCE:	Bernardi 307Hf (one example listed)
CONDITION:	*Edge shaved, very fine and extremely rare*
ESTIMATE:	£2,500-3,000

78
ABBASID, AL-MUTTAQI (329-333h)
Dinar, Wasit 330h

OBVERSE:	In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Abu Mansur bin* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
WEIGHT:	4.18g
REFERENCE:	Bernardi 308Jm (one example cited)
CONDITION:	*Small patches of deposit on reverse but about extremely fine and extremely rare*
ESTIMATE:	£2,000-3,000

79
ABBASID, AL-MUSTAKFI (333-334h)
Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 333h

OBVERSE: In field: letter *ha* | *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *al-Muzaffar* | *Abu'l-Wafa* | annulet
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad rasul* | *Allah Sali Allah* | *'alayhi wa salam* | *al-Mustakfi billah* | *al-khalifa*
WEIGHT: 4.10g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 355Jh, *same dies*
CONDITION: *Light die rust on obverse, about extremely fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

80
ABBASID, AL-MUTI' (334-363h)
Dinar, Baysh 342h

OBVERSE: In field: letter *ha* below
WEIGHT: 2.79g
REFERENCE: SICA 10, 40, *same dies*
CONDITION: *Very fine or better and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-2,500

81
ABBASID, AL-MUTI' (334-363h)
Dinar, 'Athar 343h

REVERSE: In field: annulet below
WEIGHT: 2.82g
REFERENCE: SICA 10, 315, *same dies*
CONDITION: *Struck from rusty dies, very fine or better and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

‡82
ABBASID, AL-MUTI‘ (334-363h)
Donative dirham, without mint or date

OBVERSE:	Caliph on horseback riding to left, right hand holding reins, left hand on the hilt of a sword which hangs at his side; to either side of his head: *lillah – al-Fadl*
REVERSE:	Horned bull kneeling to left, with hump on his back and decorated flanks; above: *al-Muti‘ lillah*
WEIGHT:	2.94g
REFERENCE:	Ilisch B I 5, citing a single example (not illustrated)
CONDITION:	*From a mount (as is common with donative pieces), light scratches on reverse, almost very fine and of the highest rarity*

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000

NOTE: This remarkable type is ultimately derived from the bull-and-horseman drachms of the Hindu Shahi dynasty, struck *circa* 850-950AD. Examples for al-Muqtadir are known in gold and in silver (the latter in some numbers), including one variety which preserves two Brahmi characters above the bull on the reverse. Why such a distinctive type should have been revived under al-Muti‘ is unclear.

See also illustration on inside front cover.

83
ABBASID, AL-MUTI‘ (334-363h)
Donative dirham, without mint or date

OBVERSE:	In margin: *Muhammad rasul Allah...* In field: *billah | al-Muti‘ | lillah*
REVERSE:	In margin: *lillah al-amr min qabl...* In field: *Amir | al-mu’- | minin*
WEIGHT:	1.86g
CONDITION:	*Fine to good fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

NOTE: The caliph al-Muti‘ was under the ‘protection’ of the Buwayhids throughout his caliphate and his influence was largely confined to religious matters. Donative issues in his sole name which do not mention his Buwayhid overlords, such as the present piece, are very rare.

84
ABBASID, AL-MUQTADI (467-487h)
Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 486h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa Allah* | *wahdahu la sharik lahu* | *al-Imam al-Muqtadi* | *bi-amr Allah Amir* | *al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul Allah* | *Sali Allah 'alayhi*
To left (vertically, downwards): *Abu'l-'Abbas*
To right (vertically, upwards): *Dhakhr al-din*
WEIGHT: 4.34g
REFERENCE: Jafar A.MS.486 *var.* (slightly different arrangement of legend in fourth and fifth line of obverse field)
CONDITION: *Extremely fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

85
ABBASID, AL-NASIR (575-622h)
Dinar, Tikrit 607h

OBVERSE: In field: *al-Imam* | *la ilaha illa Allah* | *wahdahu la sharik lahu* | *al-Nasir li-din Allah* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul Allah* | *Sali Allah 'alayhi*
WEIGHT: 2.83g
REFERENCE: cf Diler p.403, note 6731 [dated 611h]
CONDITION: *Crudely struck on a broad flan, good very fine overall and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

PROVENANCE: Ex Morton and Eden auction 37, 9 June 2009, lot 605.

86
ABBASID, AL-NASIR (575-622h)
Dinar, Daquqa 6x9h (probably 609h)

OBVERSE: In field: *al-Imam* | *la ilaha illa Allah* | *wahdahu la sharik lahu* | *al-Nasir li-din Allah* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul Allah* | *Sali Allah 'alayhi* | ornament
WEIGHT: 5.94g
REFERENCES: Album 268, note 155; Diler –
CONDITION: *Bent, some striking weakness, fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

87
ABBASID, AL-ZAHIR (622-623)
Dinar, Daquqa 623h

OBVERSE: In field: *al-Imam* | *la ilaha illa Allah* | *wahdahu la sharik lahu* | *al-Zahir bi-amr Allah* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul Allah* | *Sali Allah 'alayhi*
WEIGHT: 6.45g
REFERENCE: Unpublished; cf Album 270 (where stated to be struck at 'Madinat al-Salam only.')
CONDITION: *Margins weak, especially on reverse, and some scratches in areas of flat striking, better than very fine and excessively rare*

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000

NOTE: An unpublished mint for this rare and short-lived caliph.

88
ABBASID, AL-MUSTANSIR (623-640h)
Dinar, Irbil 631h

OBVERSE: In field: *al-Imam* | *la ilaha illa Allah* | *wahdahu la sharik lahu* | *al-Mustansir billah* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE: In field, within double cable border: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul Allah* | *Sali Allah 'alayhi*
WEIGHT: 4.01g
REFERENCE: Diler p.76, note 1374
CONDITION: *Flan crack, reverse off centre but good very fine for issue and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

89
ABBASID, AL-MUSTANSIR (623-640h)
Dinar, Irbil 632h

OBVERSE: In field: *al-Imam* | *la ilaha illa Allah* | *wahdahu la sharik lahu* | *al-Mustansir billah* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE: In field, within double cable border: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul Allah* | *Sali Allah 'alayhi*
WEIGHT: 4.31g
REFERENCE: Lavoix 1306
CONDITION: *Slightly wavy flan, some marginal weakness, about very fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

90
UMAYYAD OF SPAIN, ʻABD AL-RAHMAN III (300-350h)
Dinar, al-Andalus 321h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa Allah* | *wahdahu la sharik lahu* | *Muhammad rasul Allah* | *Muhammad*
REVERSE: In field: *al-Imam* | *al-nasir li-din* | *Allah ʻAbd al-Rahman* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
WEIGHT: 4.24g
REFERENCES: CUS 200a *var.;* Vives 376 *var.*
CONDITION: *Minor flan faults on reverse, almost extremely fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

NOTE: This variety, with the *shahada* in the obverse field in two lines rather than three, appears to be unpublished.

91
UMAYYAD OF SPAIN, MUHAMMAD III AL-MUSTAKFI (414-416h)
Dinar, al-Andalus 415h

OBVERSE: In field: annulet | *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Bakr*
REVERSE: In field: ornament | *al-Imam Muhammad* | *Amir al-Mu'minin* | *al-Mustakfi billah*
WEIGHT: 4.11g
REFERENCES: Album B362 RRR; Ibrahim 13
CONDITION: *Good fine and extremely rare, believed to be the second recorded specimen of this date*

ESTIMATE: £4,000-6,000

92
HAMMUDID OF MÁLAGA, AL-MAʻMUN AL-QASIM (408-414h)
Dinar, al-Andalus 413h

OBVERSE: In field: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Ibn Qind*
REVERSE: In field: *al-imam al-Qasim* | *al-Maʻmun* | *Amir al-Mu'minin* | *Hasan*
WEIGHT: 3.44g
REFERENCES: cf *Delgado* p. VIII, 8 [412h]; Album 364
CONDITION: *Faint edge marks, very fine to good very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

93
ALMORAVID, ‘ALI B. YUSUF (500-537h)
Dinar, Balansiya (Valencia) 505h

WEIGHT: 4.04g
REFERENCES: Hazard 225; Vives 1596
CONDITION: *Scrape in obverse field and with other minor scuffs, very fine or better and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,5000

94
ALMORAVID, TASHFIN B. ‘ALI (537-540h)
Dinar, Ishbiliya (Seville) 539h

WEIGHT: 4.12g
REFERENCES: Hazard 430 = Vives 1868 *var.* (slightly different spacing of obverse legend)
CONDITION: *Extremely fine or better and rare, an exceptional example*

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

95
KINGS OF MURCIA, MUHAMMAD B. SA‘D (542-567h)
Dinar, Mursiya 544h

WEIGHT: 3.75g
REFERENCE: Vives 1934
CONDITION: *Good very fine, rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

96
HAFSID, MUHAMMAD I B. YAHYA I (647-675h)
Dinar, without mint or date (struck c. 650-675h)

WEIGHT: 4.75g
REFERENCES: Hazard 564; Album 501
CONDITION: *Good extremely fine, an exceptional striking with splendid Kufic calligraphy*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

97
KINGS OF MERTOLA AND SILVES, SIDRAY B. WAZIR (546-552h)
Qirat, Beja, undated

OBVERSE: Archway with *Beja* below
REVERSE: *Hamdin | Ibn Wazir*
WEIGHT: 0.34g
REFERENCE: cf Gomes p.65, 01.01 ('two examples known')
CONDITION: *Good fine/fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

NOTE: Beja, an extremely rare Islamic mint, is a city in the Alentejo district of Portugal. The reverse of the specimen described by Gomes apparently has a different legend on the reverse although the published illustration, a line drawing, is insufficiently clear for certainty.

98
UNCERTAIN DYNASTY (ANTI-HAMDANID REBELLION)
Dirham, Antakiya 353h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-haqq al-mubin*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Muti' lillah*
WEIGHT: 2.42g
REFERENCE: *RIC* 360, *same dies*
CONDITION: *Crudely produced with some spelling errors in legends, very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

NOTE: The date on this coin is strangely engraved, leading Miles to read it as 339h. The decade, however is clearly legible on this specimen as *khamsin,* 'fifty', and the unit of the date is best read as *thalath* with a *lam-alif* (so Ilisch, Munzen und Medaillen auction 76, 19-20 September 1991, lot 1055 and note). Diler notes that this rare type was struck during a rebellion against the Hamdanids which lasted from 353-355h (see p. 31 and note).

98A
QARMATID, AL-HASAN B. AHMAD (fl. 361-364h)
Dinar, Filastin 361h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-Sadat al-ru'asa*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah | Muhammad rasul Allah | sala Allah 'alayhi | wa 'ala alihi | al-Muti' lillah | al-Hasan b. Ahmad*
WEIGHT: 2.42g
REFERENCE: Vardanyan 11, *same obverse die*
CONDITION: *Light crease and small edge knock, almost very fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £8,000-10,000

NOTE: Although a radical Isma'ili sect, the Qarmatids nevertheless named the 'Abbasid caliph on their coinage.

99
FATIMID, AL-QA'IM (322-334h)
Dinar, without mint name [Sijilmasa] 330h

OBVERSE: In field: *'Abdallah* above
REVERSE: In field: *al-Imam* | —- | *al-Mahdi* above and below
WEIGHT: 4.13g
REFERENCE: cf Nicol 139 (dated 329h)
CONDITION: *Fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

NOTE: The mint of Sijilmasa continued to strike dinars naming al-Mahdi for at least eleven years after his death (see Nicol 136-142). This appears to be an unpublished date for the issue.

100
FATIMID, AL-QA'IM (322-334h)
Dinar, al-Qayrawan 334h

WEIGHT: 4.19g
REFERENCE: Nicol 147 (citing two examples)
CONDITION: *Very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

101
FATIMID, AL-QA'IM (322-334h)
Dinar, al-Mahdiya 323h

WEIGHT: 4.15g
REFERENCE: Nicol 153
CONDITION: *Good very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

102
FATIMID, AL-QA'IM (322-334h)
Dinar, al-Mahdiya 324h

WEIGHT: 4.18g
REFERENCE: Nicol 156
CONDITION: *Obverse scuff, good very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

103
FATIMID, AL-QA'IM (322-334h)
Dinar, al-Mahdiya 328h

WEIGHT: 4.17g
REFERENCE: Nicol 160 (citing three examples)
CONDITION: *Very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

104
FATIMID, AL-MANSUR (334-341h)
Dinar, al-Mansuriya 338h

WEIGHT: 4.19g
REFERENCE: Nicol 215
CONDITION: *Extremely fine*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

NOTE: See enlargement on inside back cover.

105
FATIMID, AL-MANSUR (334-341h)
Dinar, al-Mahdiya 336h, month of Shawwal

OBVERSE: In margin: *bismillah...al-dinar bi'l-Mahdiya shahr Shawwal min sanat...*
WEIGHT: 4.16g
REFERENCE: Nicol 226, *this piece cited* (weight given by Nicol as 4.2g)
CONDITION: *Good very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

106
FATIMID, AL-MANSUR (334-341h)
Dinar, al-Mahdiya 337h, month of Rabi' II

OBVERSE: In margin: *bismillah...al-dinar bi'l-Mahdiya shahr Rabi' al-akhir min sanat...*
WEIGHT: 4.15g
REFERENCE: Nicol 234
CONDITION: *Good very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

107
FATIMID, AL-MANSUR (334-341h)
Dinar, al-Mahdiya 337h, month of Ramadan

OBVERSE: In margin: *bismillah...al-dinar bi'l-Mahdiya shahr Ramadan min sanat...*
WEIGHT: 4.17g
REFERENCE: Nicol 239 (citing three examples)
CONDITION: *Light crease and a few scuffs and marks, very fine or better and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

108
FATIMID, AL-MU'IZZ (341-365h)
Dinar, Filastin 359h

WEIGHT: 4.33g
REFERENCE: Nicol 336
CONDITION: *Some weakness of striking, very fine to good very fine*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

NOTE: The earliest date for Fatimid dinars of Filastin.

109
FATIMID, AL-'AZIZ (365-386h)
Dinar, Filastin 369h

WEIGHT: 4.16g
REFERENCE: Nicol 672
CONDITION: *Very fine or better*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

110
FATIMID, AL-'AZIZ (365-386h)
Dinar, Filastin 370h

WEIGHT: 4.18g
REFERENCE: Nicol 673
CONDITION: *Very fine or better*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

111
FATIMID, AL-‘AZIZ (365-386h)
Dinar, Filastin 373h

WEIGHT: 4.10g
REFERENCE: Nicol 675
CONDITION: *About fine*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

112
FATIMID, AL-‘AZIZ (365-386h)
Dinar, Filastin 374h

WEIGHT: 4.13g
REFERENCE: Nicol 676
CONDITION: *Very fine to good very fine for issue*

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

113
FATIMID, AL-‘AZIZ (365-386h)
Dinar, Filastin 375h

WEIGHT: 4.19g
REFERENCE: Nicol 677
CONDITION: *Good fine*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

114
FATIMID, AL-‘AZIZ (365-386h)
Dinar, Filastin 376h

WEIGHT: 4.17g
REFERENCE: Nicol 678
CONDITION: *Very fine*

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

115
FATIMID, AL-ʻAZIZ (365-386h)
Dinar, Filastin 378h

WEIGHT: 4.06g
REFERENCE: Nicol 679
CONDITION: *Small edge clip, about very fine*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

116
FATIMID, AL-ʻAZIZ (365-386h)
Dinar, Filastin 382h

WEIGHT: 4.09g
REFERENCE: Nicol 681a (citing a single example)
CONDITION: *Good very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

117
FATIMID, AL-ʻAZIZ (365-386h)
Dinar, Filastin 385h

WEIGHT: 4.04g
REFERENCE: Nicol 684 (citing a single example)
CONDITION: *About fine, extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

118
FATIMID, AL-ʻAZIZ (365-386h)
Dinar, Filastin 386h

WEIGHT: 3.84g
REFERENCE: Nicol 685 (citing a single example)
CONDITION: *Minor edge marks, very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

119
FATIMID, AL-HAKIM (386-411h)
Dinar, Dimashq 399h

WEIGHT: 3.36g
REFERENCE: Nicol 907
CONDITION: *Good fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,500-3,000

NOTE: Nicol's only reference for this date is a specimen mentioned, but not illustrated or described, in a 1980s auction catalogue. All Damascus dinars of al-Hakim are very rare.

120
FATIMID, AL-HAKIM (386-411h)
Dinar, Filastin 391h

WEIGHT: 4.22g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1049 (citing a single example in a private collection)
CONDITION: *Edge shaved and a little weakly struck in centres, about very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

121
FATIMID, AL-ZAHIR (411-427h)
Dinar, Dimashq 426h

WEIGHT: 3.85g
REFERENCE: Nicol type F1 (cf 1402 for a similar dinar dated 427h)
CONDITION: *Fair to fine and apparently an unpublished date*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

NOTE: Nicol knew of no Fatimid dinars from Damascus between 424h (of a different type with the letter *dal* denoting *Dimashq* in the centre) and 427h. The present coin demonstrates that the earlier type, with the initial letter of the mint-name, was only struck there for one or two years.

122
FATIMID, AL-ZAHIR (411-427h)
Dinar, Zawila 414h

WEIGHT: 3.65g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1402
CONDITION: *Wavy flan, about fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

NOTE: The Fatimids struck coins at Zawila in only two years: 397h and 414h (as offered here).

123
FATIMID, AL-ZAHIR (411-427h)
Dinar, Tabariya 424h

WEIGHT: 3.86g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1487 (citing three examples)
CONDITION: *Fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

NOTE: The letter *teh* in the central circle on both sides of this interesting type is short for *Tabariya*. Similar types are also known for the mints of Sur, with letter *sad* in the central circle, and Tarablus, denoted by the letter *sin* (the final letter of the mint - presumably because the more obvious *teh* was already used for Tabariya).

124
FATIMID, AL-ZAHIR (411-427h)
Dinar, Filastin 415h

WEIGHT: 4.24g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1496 (citing two examples)
CONDITION: *Evenly struck, very fine to good very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

125
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Halab 442h

WEIGHT: 4.10g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1707
CONDITION: *Some die rust, about extremely fine and rare thus*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

126
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Halab 444h

WEIGHT: 3.83g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1708
CONDITION: *Extremely fine and rare thus*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

127
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Halab 445h

WEIGHT: 4.29g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1709
CONDITION: *About extremely fine and rare thus*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

128
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Halab 446h

WEIGHT: 4.12g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1710
CONDITION: *Flan very slightly bowed, extremely fine with some lustre, rare thus*

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

129
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Dimashq 441h

WEIGHT: 4.10g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1727
CONDITION: *Extremely fine and rare thus*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

130
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Dimashq 443h

WEIGHT: 4.19g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1729
CONDITION: *Light double-striking, almost extremely fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

131
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Dimashq 447h

WEIGHT: 4.19g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1732
CONDITION: *Good very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

132
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Dimashq 456h

WEIGHT: 3.95g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1735
CONDITION: *Good fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

NOTE: Nicol cites a single specimen of this mint and date, of identical weight to this piece, offered in a fixed price list in 1995. Whilst it has not been possible to locate an image of the coin, it may very well be the same example offered here.

133
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Zabid 447h

OBVERSE: In centre: *al-Imam Ma'add | Abu Tamim*
REVERSE: In centre: *al-Mustansir | billah Amir al-mu'-| minin*
WEIGHT: 2.03g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1738a
CONDITION: *Light scratches on obverse, almost very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

NOTE: Nicol cites a single example of this variety.

134
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Tabariya 436h

WEIGHT: 3.92g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1973
CONDITION: *Almost very fine, rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

135
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Tabariya 439h

WEIGHT: 3.89g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1976
CONDITION: *Slightly wavy flan and with some double-striking on obverse, good very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

136
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Tabariya 442h

WEIGHT: 4.08g
REFERENCE: Nicol 1978
CONDITION: *Some weakness in margin, otherwise very fine or better and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

137
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Filastin 431h

WEIGHT: 4.21g
REFERENCE: Nicol 2061
CONDITION: *Fine, with mint and date clear*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

138
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Filastin 436h

WEIGHT: 4.21g
REFERENCE: Nicol 2065
CONDITION: *On a slightly buckled flan, good fine*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

139
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Filastin 440h

WEIGHT: 3.15g
REFERENCE: Nicol 2068 (citing three examples)
CONDITION: *Edge damage, otherwise good fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

140
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Filastin 444h

WEIGHT: 3.44g
REFERENCE: Nicol 2072
CONDITION: *Struck from rusty dies, good very fine*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,200

141
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, Filastin 445h

WEIGHT: 4.30g
REFERENCE: Nicol 2073
CONDITION: *Very fine or better and rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

142
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, ʻAkka 473h

WEIGHT: 4.16g
REFERENCE: Nicol 2031 (citing two examples)
CONDITION: *About very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

143
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, ʻAkka 484h

WEIGHT: 4.16g
REFERENCE: Nicol 2037
CONDITION: *Minor scrapes on both sides, very fine*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

144
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR / AL-BASASIRI
Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 450h

OBVERSE: In field: *Ma'add* | *'Abd Allah wa waliyat* | *al-Imam Abu Tamim* | *al-Mustansir billah* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE: In field: *'Ali* | *la ilaha illa Allah* | *wahdahu la sharik lahu* | *Muhammad rasul Allah* | *wali Allah*
WEIGHT: 3.51g
REFERENCES: cf Nicol 2092 = Jafar F.MS.450
CONDITION: *Edge shaved, double-struck on obverse and some scrapes on reverse but with mint and date clearly legible, good fine overall, historically important and of the highest rarity*

ESTIMATE: £10,000-15,000

NOTE: The Fatimid partisan Arslan al-Basasiri was a Turkish general who enjoyed considerable status and prestige in Baghdad under the Buwayhids until their fall in 447h and the coming of the Great Seljuqs under Tughril Beg. Fearing for his own position, al-Basasiri started making overtures to the Fatimids who promised him financial and military support. His opportunity came in 450h when the absence from the capital of the Great Seljuq sultan, Tughril Beg, allowed al-Basasiri able to enter Baghdad with only a small force. He was able to compel the Abbasid caliph, al-Qa'im, to sign a declaration waiving the rights of the Abbasids to the caliphate as long as the Fatimid line endured, and also had the *khutba* in Baghdad read in the name of the Fatimid al-Mustansir, rather than in that of the Abbasid caliph.

All Fatimid dinars struck during this episode are rare. Most surviving coins are dated 451h, and the present specimen is one of only two surviving examples from 450h. The other published piece (Nicol 2092) included the name of a month - *Ramadan* - in the mint/date legend, which is not found on this coin. This parallels the issues of the following year, which are found with and without the month *Muharram*. Including the month as well as the year of issue is a feature which recurs from time to time within the Fatimid coinage, and contemporary dinars from the Fatimid mint of al-Mahdiya also bore month names.

Jafar *(op. cit.)* reports the contemporary belief that the Fatimids had supplied al-Basasiri with specially-prepared dinars *before* he took control of Baghdad, bearing the mint-name of 'Madinat al-Salam' but actually made elsewhere. He further notes that standard Fatimid dinars struck at this time were of the characteristic 'bull's-eye' type with several concentric rings of legends, whilst the fields of al-Basasiri's dinars carry legends arranged in several horizontal lines, in a style more like other coin types then circulating in Baghdad.

145
FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)
Dinar, al-Mahdiya 464h, month of Safar

OBVERSE: In margin: *...duriba hadha al-dinar bi'l-Mahdiya fi shahr Safar sanat...*
WEIGHT: 3.95g
REFERENCE: cf Nicol 2240 (dated 463h, month of Muharram)
CONDITION: *Almost very fine and of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished*

ESTIMATE: £2,000-3,000

NOTE: The mint of al-Mahdiya struck a series of dinars bearing month names between 457h and 464h. This is the latest known issue for the type.

146
FATIMID, AL-‘ADID (555-567h)
Dinar, al-Iskandariya 564h

WEIGHT: 4.59g
REFERENCE: Nicol 2686
CONDITION: *Edge shaved, otherwise very fine or better and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

NOTE: The latest date for Fatimid dinars from Alexandria, with only a single example recorded by Nicol.

147
FATIMID, AL-‘ADID (555-567h)
Dinar, al-Mu‘izziya al-Qahira 566h

WEIGHT: 3.98g
REFERENCE: Nicol 2713
CONDITION: *Small area of edge damage, otherwise very fine or better and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

NOTE: This is the final year in which the Fatimids struck coins before the fall of the dynasty. In the following year, 567h, the famous Ayyubid ruler Saladin began to issue dinars from Cairo.

148
BURID OF DAMASCUS, *temp.* ABAQ (534-549h)
Dinar, Dimashq 536h

OBVERSE: In outer margin: mint and date:
In inner margin: *la ilaha illa Allah wahdahu la sharik lahu Muhammad rasul Allah*
In field: *lillah | al-Muqtafi | al-Amir*
REVERSE: In outer margin: Qur’an ix, 33
In inner margin: *Mu‘izz al-dunya wa’l-din wa Ghiyath al-dunya wa’l-din Sanjar wa Mas‘ud*
WEIGHT: 4.31g
REFERENCE: Album M784 RRR
CONDITION: *Light traces of mounting, otherwise very fine or better and excessively rare*

ESTIMATE: £5,000-7,000

149
OTTOMAN, SÜLEYMAN I (926-974h)
Sultani, Qaratova 926h

WEIGHT: 3.45g
REFERENCE: Pere 179
CONDITION: *Minor scrapes on obverse, very fine or better and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,200-1,500

150
OTTOMAN, MURAD III (982-1003h)
Sultani, Qaratova 982h

WEIGHT: 3.43g
REFERENCE: Pere –
CONDITION: *Reverse a little off-centre and with small patch of weak striking, very fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

151
OTTOMAN, MEHMED III (1003-1012h)
Sultani, Siwas 1003h

WEIGHT: 3.44g
REFERENCE: Pere 326 *var.*
CONDITION: *Areas of flat striking on both sides, traces of lacquer, otherwise very fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,800-2,200

152
SAMANID, NASR B. AHMAD (301-331h) and AHMAD B. SAHL (302-307h)
Dinar, Balkh 302h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Ahmad*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul Allah* | *al-Muqtadir billah* | *Nasr b. Ahmad* | letter *sin*
WEIGHT: 3.94g
REFERENCE: Bernardi 270Qd
CONDITION: *Traces of light deposit, otherwise extremely fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

153
SAJID, YUSUF B. DIWDAD (298-312h)
Dinar, Adharbayjan 304h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul Allah* | *al-Muqtadir billah* | *Yusuf bin Diwdad* | crescent
WEIGHT: 3.51g
REFERENCES: Bernardi 251Kh (citing two examples); Album 1478
CONDITION: *Punchmark in top of field on reverse, fine and rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

154
SAJID, AL-FATH B. AL-AFSHIN (315-317h)
Dinar, Ardabil 316h

OBVERSE: In field: *la ilaha illa Allah* | *wahdahu la sharik lahu* | *Abu'l-'Abbas bin* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE: In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul Allah* | *al-Muqtadir billah* | *al-Fath bin al-Afshin* | *mawla Amir al-Mu'minin*
WEIGHT: 3.97g
REFERENCES: Bernardi 253Ka (citing a single example); Album A1480
CONDITION: *Some deposit, about very fine and very rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

155
SU'LUKID, AHMAD B. 'ALI
Dinar, Madinat Thaghr Qazwin 306h

OBVERSE:	In field: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah wahdahu* | *la sharik lahu* | *Abu'l- 'Abbas bin* | *Amir al-Mu'minin*
REVERSE:	In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad* | *rasul* | *Allah* | *al-Muqtadir billah* | *Ahmad bin 'Ali*
WEIGHT:	4.17g
REFERENCE:	cf Bernardi 261 (type only listed for al-Muhammadiya, beginning in 308h)
CONDITION:	*Small area of weak striking on reverse, good very fine and apparently unpublished*
ESTIMATE:	£3,000-4,000

‡156
ZIYARID, QABUS B. WUSHMAGIR, FIRST REIGN (367-371h)
Dinar, Jurjan 370h

OBVERSE:	In field: *la ilaha illa Allah* | *Qabus bin Wushmagir*
REVERSE:	In margin: *hasbi Allahu la ilaha illa huwa 'alayhi tawakkaltu wa huwa rabb al-'arshil 'azim* In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad rasul Allah* | *al-Ta'i' lillah*
WEIGHT:	3.12g
REFERENCE:	Sotheby's, 17 April 1984, lot 122, *same dies*
CONDITION:	*Struck from rusty dies, edge shaved, otherwise good very fine and rare*
ESTIMATE:	£1,000-1,500

157
GREAT SELJUQ, TUGHRIL BEG (429-455h)
Dirham, Shiraz 451h

OBVERSE:	Marginal legend within eight-pointed star; *Tughr* (sic) - *Beg* above and below field
REVERSE:	Marginal legend within eight-pointed star In field: *al-'adil* | *Muhammad rasul Allah* | *Shahanshah* | *Abu Mansur* | letter *sin*
WEIGHT:	3.95g
REFERENCE:	cf Album T1666, reporting a single example of a different date
CONDITION:	*Some deposit on reverse, weakly struck but almost very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,500-2,000

158
GREAT SELJUQ, TUGHRIL BEG (429-455h)
Dirham, Shiraz 451h

REVERSE:	In field: *lillah* | *Muhammad rasul Allah* | *Sali Allah 'alayhi wa salam* | *Shahanshah al-Mu'azzim* | *Abu Mansur* | letter *sin*
WEIGHT:	3.40g
REFERENCE:	cf Album T1666
CONDITION:	*Small patch of staining on obverse, good fine to very fine and extremely rare*

ESTIMATE: £1,000-1,500

‡159
GREAT MONGOLS, ANONYMOUS, TEMP. ÖGEDEI (624-639h)
Dinar, Dihistan 63xh (possibly 631h)

REVERSE:	In field: *al-Qa'an* | *al-'adil* | *al-'azam* | *Dihistan* In margin: mint and date
WEIGHT:	7.25g
REFERENCE:	Album 1966
CONDITION:	*Typically crude striking, with much flatness in margins but with mint and date largely legible, fine to very fine for issue and rare*
ESTIMATE:	£1,000-1,500
NOTE:	The century and decade are clear on this specimen although the year is weakly struck.

‡160
GREAT MONGOLS, ANONYMOUS, TEMP. ÖGEDEI (624-639h)
Dinar, Tus 636h

OBVERSE:	In field, within square-in-circle: *la ilaha illa* | *Allah Muhammad* | *rasul Allah;* mint-name *Tus* repeated four times in outer segments
REVERSE:	In field, within square-in-circle: *al-Qa'an* | *al-'adil* | *al-'azam;* mint-name *Tus* repeated four times in outer segments In margin: mint and date
WEIGHT:	7.13g
REFERENCE:	Album 1966
CONDITION:	*Crudely struck on a poorly-prepared and buckled flan, fine to good fine for issue and very rare, especially with fully visible mint and date*
ESTIMATE:	£2,000-3,000

END OF SALE

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If Morton & Eden Ltd. sells an item of Property which is later shown to be a "Counterfeit", subject to the terms below Morton & Eden Ltd. will rescind the sale and refund the Buyer the total amount paid by the Buyer to Morton & Eden Ltd. for that Property, up to a maximum of the Purchase Price.

The Guarantee lasts for two (2) years after the date of the relevant auction, is for the benefit of the Buyer only and is non-transferable.

"Counterfeit" means an item of Property that in Morton & Eden Ltd.'s reasonable opinion is an imitation created with the intent to deceive over the authorship, origin, date, age, period, culture or source, where the correct description of such matters is not included in the catalogue description for the Property.
Property shall not be considered Counterfeit solely because of any damage and/or restoration and/or modification work (including, but not limited to, traces of mounting, tooling or repatinating).
Please note that this Guarantee does not apply if either:-

(i) the catalogue description was in accordance with the generally accepted opinions of scholars and experts at the date of the sale, or the catalogue description indicated that there was a conflict of such opinions; or

(ii) the only method of establishing at the date of the sale that the item was a Counterfeit would have been by means of processes not then generally available or accepted, unreasonably expensive or impractical; or likely to have caused damage to or loss in value to the Property (in Morton & Eden Ltd.'s reasonable opinion); or

(iii) there has been no material loss in value of the Property from its value had it accorded with its catalogue description.

To claim under this Guarantee, the Buyer must:-

(i) notify Morton & Eden Ltd. in writing within one (1) month of receiving any information that causes the Buyer to question the authenticity or attribution of the Property, specifying the lot number, date of the auction at which it was purchased and the reasons why it is believed to be Counterfeit; and

(ii) return the Property to Morton & Eden Ltd. in the same condition as at the date of sale and be able to transfer good title in the Property, free from any third party claims arising after the date of the sale.

Morton & Eden Ltd. has discretion to waive any of the above requirements. Morton & Eden Ltd. may require the Buyer to obtain at the Buyer's cost the reports of two independent and recognised experts in the relevant field and acceptable to Morton & Eden Ltd. Morton & Eden Ltd. shall not be bound by any reports produced by the Buyer, and reserves the right to seek additional expert advice at its own expense. In the event Morton & Eden Ltd. decides to rescind the sale under this Guarantee, it may refund to the Buyer the reasonable costs of up to two mutually approved independent expert reports, provided always that the costs of such reports have been approved in advance and in writing by Morton & Eden Ltd.

MORTON & EDEN LTD

ABSENTEE BID FORM
(please print clearly or type)

Sale Title:
Important Coins of the Islamic World

Date:
10 April 2014

Please mail or fax to:
Morton & Eden Ltd.
Nash House
St George Street
London W1S 2FQ
Fax: +44 (0)20 7495 6325

Important
Please bid on my behalf at the above sale for the following Lot(s) up to the hammer price(s) mentioned below. These bids are to be executed as cheaply as is permitted by other bids or reserves and in an amount up to but not exceeding the specified amount. The auctioneer may open the bidding on any lot by placing a bid on behalf of the seller. The auctioneer may further bid on behalf of the seller up to the amount of the reserve by placing responsive or consecutive bids for a lot.

I agree to be bound by Morton & Eden's Conditions of Business. If any bid is successful, I agree to pay a buyer's premium on the hammer price at the rate stated in the front of the catalogue and any VAT, or amounts in lieu of VAT, which may be due on the buyer's premium and the hammer price.

Payment Instructions:

Sterling Cash
Subject to statutory limits

Cheque or Banker's Draft
Drawn on a recognised UK bank.
Foreign cheques will not be accepted.

Credit/Debit Card
All credit and non-UK debit card payments are subject to a surcharge of 2%.

Bank Transfer

Name	
Address	
	Postcode
Telephone/Home	**Business**
Fax	**VAT No.**
Email	
Signed	**Date**

Card type (Visa, Mastercard, Debit)	
Card Number	
Cardholder Name	
Expiry Date	**Issue No. (debit cards only)**
Security Code (last 3 digits on back of card)	
Billing Address (if different from above)	
Cardholder Signature (By signing this you are authorising payment for this sale)	

If you wish Morton & Eden to ship your purchases, please tick ☐

Lot No	Lot Description	£ Bid Price

Lot No	Lot Description	£ Bid Price